

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

21. (**Currently amended**) A device for directing energy to a target area of skin, comprising:

- an energy source that emits energy;
- an intermediate substance ~~that~~ adapted to contacts the skin, and blocks the emitted energy from directly striking the target area,
- an absorbing material embedded in the intermediate substance that absorbs at least a portion of the emitted energy, and thereby provides heat to the target area without ablating the skin.

22. (previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance is a suspension containing high absorbing particles.

23. (previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance is a thin film containing high absorbing particles.

24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance is a paper containing a highly absorbing substance.

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance comprises agar.
29. (previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance is a solid mixture containing highly absorbing particles.
30. (canceled)
31. (previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance contains a liquid mixture containing highly absorbing particles.
32. (canceled)
33. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance comprises ~~is~~ a thermal insulator containing highly absorbing particles.
34. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance comprises ~~is~~ a layer of thermal conductor containing highly absorbing particles.
35. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the intermediate substance comprises ~~is~~ a metallic layer containing highly absorbing particles.
36. (canceled)
37. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the energy source comprises a laser.
38. (currently amended) A method of treating a skin blemish, comprising:
emitting radiative energy towards a target area of the blemish;

blocking transmission of the radiative energy to the target area by
interposing an intermediate substance that absorbs the radiative
energy to produce heat; and,
allowing the intermediate substance to conduct the heat to the target area
without ablating the target area.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the intermediate substance comprises a thin insulating material mixed with grains of material capable of absorbing at least one frequency band of the electromagnetic energy.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the emitted radiative energy comprises pulses from a laser.

41-44. (canceled)

45. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21 further comprising a heat removing mechanism device to remove heat from skin target material.

46. (Currently amended) The device of claim 21, wherein absorbing material embedded in the intermediate substance includes ~~the~~ absorbing material in sufficient density to convert at least 20% of the emitted energy to heat.

47. (Currently amended) The device of claim 21, wherein the intermediate substance includes a plurality of ~~absorbing~~ locations of the absorbing material.

48. (currently amended) The device ~~method~~ of claim 21, wherein the energy source comprises a diode laser.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the radiate energy source comprises laser emissions.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the radiate energy source comprises ultrasound.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the radiate energy source comprises microwave.

52. (currently amended) The method of claim 38 ~~21~~, wherein the radiate energy source comprises X-ray.

53. (currently amended) The method of claim 38 ~~21~~, wherein the radiate energy source comprises a particle beam.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising actively cooling the target area.

55. (new) The method of claim 38 wherein the energy source comprise an electric energy,

56. (New) The device of claim 21 wherein said energy is one or more of the following types of energy: electrical energy, microwave energy, ultrasound energy, electromagnetic energy, chemical energy, mechanical energy, nuclear energy, and the intermediate substance is a solid

57. (New) The device of claim 21 wherein said energy is electric energy and the intermediate substance is an electric resistor heater.